

## STUDIES IN HOTELS.

Queer Characters Who Pose as Guests of First-Class New York Hotels.

No more remarkable and cosmopolitan types of the genus man can be found in the world than stamps the corridors of the New York hotels. An observing man can lose himself in a labyrinth of mysterious cogitations in ten minutes if he tries to guess the identity and purposes of even ten per cent of the men who regularly frequent the popular portions of the big New York hotels. There is a vast difference between the man who is constantly seen about the corridors and the man who lives regularly and domestically at the hotel. The latter comes up-town from business, hurries to his room and is invisible about the house again until breakfast next morning, except in very rare instances. Of course there are hotel hermits, but these men are exceptions. As a rule the regular guests are strangers to the office and the public part of the house.

The hotel hermit is a distinct creation. I have one in view now. He has lived for sixteen years at one of the most prominent of the Broadway hotels, and in that time it is doubtful if he has been away from the house more than ten consecutive hours. He is a heavy-jawed, red-faced creature, with sluggish eyes, ponderous belly and lazy movements. He rises about ten o'clock, spends half an hour over his boots, another half hour with the barber, and then talks to the hall boys, telegraph clerks, bartenders and other employees of the house who will take the trouble to listen to him. After this he poses for half an hour on a particular flagstone, with his shoulders against a certain portion of the portico. If anybody happens to be standing in that place he waits patiently until he has a chance to take up his favorite position. He has a particular chair by a certain window in the dining-room, and here he breakfasts slowly for an hour or more. After that he resumes his position in front of the house or if it is raining takes up a certain fixed space on a particular bench in the corridor. His life is the acme of monotony; he naturally has few friends, for he never ventures out in the world and his life and talk are tiresome to contemplate and hear. It is impossible even to get him to attend the theater. He undoubtedly does precisely as he wishes to do and the whole world is willing that he should devote himself to his fascinating pursuit of hotel immolation.

The men who constantly challenge conjecture are the well-dressed, gentlemanly-appearing and polished men of the world who have their mail addressed to the principal hostleries, who make all their appointments there and who occasionally dine in the hotel restaurants, but who never actually live in the house. No man knows where they do live either, for their goings and comings are as mysterious as the much discussed merits of a good yachting breeze the day before a race. Some of these men of the world are projectors of railroads, others own more or less pretentious patent rights and some are adventurers pure and simple who trade upon the lesser intelligence of their fellows. Not infrequently the great wheel of fortune throws one or the other to the top and the schemer and manipulator of yesterday is the millionaire of to-day.—*Blakely Hall, in Philadelphia Press.*

## Cigarette Smoking.

A young man recently died in New York, presumably from the effects of cigarette smoking. The evil effects of such a habit are well known to physicians, but, notwithstanding the warnings that have been published, the habit seems to be spreading, not only among young boys, but also among men of riper years whom one would think had better sense. People who smoke cigarettes do more smoking than those who use cigars or a pipe. They inhale the smoke, which is charged with nicotine, and this lodges on the lungs. The fresh air which is beneficial to the human system is excluded, and the blood becomes poisoned. The poison reaches the heart, as it did in the case of this young man, and the cigarette smoker in time has heart disease, which ultimately results in death. Some suppose that the paper wrappings of cigarettes do the mischief, but such is not the case. The paper may contain poison, but this poison is not as dangerous as the nicotine. It would be a blessing to humanity if some law were passed to suppress the manufacture of the deadly cigarettes.—*Demorest's Monthly.*

## Where We Get Epsom Salts.

Epsom salt is the name given in pharmacy to the hydrated sulphate of magnesium, which was obtained over two hundred years ago by evaporating the waters of some mineral springs at Epsom, England. Sea water was afterward found to contain it, the brine remaining after the separation of the common salt consisting of the sulphate of magnesium and the chlorides of magnesium and calcium. It was readily obtained by collecting the first crystals which formed and washing them with a strong solution of the same salt. An excellent quality is manufactured at Baltimore and in this city from the mineral magnesite, a silicious hydrate of magnesium, which is found in the ser-

pentine of this region. The mineral, reduced to powder, is dissolved in sulphuric acid. The product, after drying, is calcined in order to decompose the sulphate of iron. It is then dissolved in water, and any iron present is precipitated by sulphuretted lime. The crystals of sulphate of magnesium are separated and dissolved again to complete the purification.—*Philadelphia Times.*

## OF GENERAL INTEREST.

—A junk man at Bushnell found two boys playing with a cast-iron globe about the size of a base ball. It proved to be an unexploded canister bomb.

—A skeleton of a human being which was recently placed in the hallway of a medical college at Los Angeles, Cal., to scare burglars away has been stolen.

—A negro at the Boyce (La.) telegraph office the other day sent the following dispatch to an absent friend: "Come home your wives dyin' fast as she can."

—A giantess, who, though only twelve years and five months old, stands eight feet high, and weighs two hundred and seventy pounds, is on exhibition in Japan.

—Two ladies, Miss Belle Burrows and Virginia Springer, each carried out a keg of powder from a burning store during a recent fire at New Martinsville, W. Va. The kegs were hot and they put wet rags on them to cool them.

—Feyth, the Bridgeport safe burglar, says that safes should be set on blocks and placed in a corner in such a position that the door will shut toward the wall. This makes it necessary to move the safe in order to get at the door with the wedge and jimmy, and the job is difficult and dangerous.

—A pretty miss, not over fifteen years of age, set up a bootblack stand in Wall street, New York, one day recently, and everyone expected to see her get a large custom, but somehow or other no man had the courage to submit his boots to the brushes of a maiden, and she was compelled to give up the business.

—In a recently published history of Connecticut appears a description of a grand wedding in the later colonial days. The historian says: "On the day after the marriage ninety-two ladies and gentlemen proceeded to dance ninety-two jigs, fifty-two contra dances, forty-five minuets, and seventeen hornpipes."

—We are growing old very fast, Horatio, my son. Time is winging us away to our eternal home at a great rate. We have scarcely recovered from the effects of our Fourth of July celebration before we have to make preparations to contract our Christmas headache. This is a mad, mad world.—*Lincoln Journal.*

—A farmer of Mecklenburg County, N. C., owns a tame crow which goes regularly to the cotton field and picks as much in a day as any of the human pickers. With its beak it twists the cotton out and puts it in a bag. The owner of this truly rare bird, as well as the neighbors, declare that the statement is true in all respects.

—A negro in Americus, Ga., bought a trunk at a store for one dollar and a half. An hour afterward he returned and said he guessed he'd got too much for his money. The trunk was filled with the storekeeper's stock of Mackinaw straw hats that had been packed away in it for the winter. They were worth from seventy-five to one hundred dollars.

—Mrs. Jennie Webster, of 1009 Chestnut street, St. Louis, found a man under her bed one evening recently. In the absence of her husband she was perusing some old love letters, the package fell to the floor, and in recovering it she discovered the intruder's feet. She quietly left the room, summoned an officer, and the would-be burglar was captured. Mrs. Webster then swooned in the most approved fashion.

—Engineer William Dart, of the steam tug U. Dart at Brunswick, Ga., reports seeing a rattlesnake the other day "coming in from sea." The steamer was near the lighthouse when his snakeship was discovered coming in with the tide, head erect, but with rattles trailing in the water. The rattlesnake usually swims with both head and tail erect, the latter waving from side to side, like that of a dog. This one must have been swimming a long time, and was no doubt exhausted, hence allowed the rattles to trail in the water.

—The experiments made by M. Mohlenbruck seem to show that in the mesmeric condition an electric current may have a powerful inductive action upon the human nerves. In the first experiment a watch was placed near the microphone and the ring placed upon the head of the mesmerized subject, who immediately began to beat time with the ticking of the watch; when the microphone contact was touched with a quill feather he placed his fingers in his ears, and on the microphone being removed to a distant apartment and the connection of the circuit completed, as before, a violin was played in the distant room, the patient showing the most distinct indications that he heard the music.

## The Lucky Mines Booming.

Secretary Hansberger, of the Lucky Mining and Prospecting company, yesterday received word that the miners had started a drift at a depth of one hundred feet, and were now taking out a ton and a half of ore per day. This is first-rate news for the stockholders of the Lucky, who are thus assured of large dividends. With 3,000 pounds of almost pure metal coming out daily, and the prospect of an early increase in this amount, the property of the Lucky company is on a boom.

## LABOR NOTES.

—About 400 laborers were discharged from the public works department in New York.

—Immense quantities of coal are to be found between the Rocky and the Sierra mountains.

—In Kentucky nearly \$10,000,000 is being expended upon new railroads originating in Louisville.

—East Chicago is to be built up with extensive car manufacturing, steel plants and slaughtering establishments.

—A great deal of small house building has been done this year, and will be done next year, in all the Western states.

—Locomotive manufacturers are trying to increase the speed of their passenger engines to eighty miles an hour.

## DENTAL DISEASES.

An English View on a Theory Advanced by an American Authority.

An article recently published in an evening contemporary very properly criticises the theory started in an American dental journal that vegetarian diet would, if universally adopted, produce an edentulous condition of the jaws in the course of a few generations, utterly regardless of the fact that vegetarian races have magnificent teeth. The pathology of this condition is stated to be disuse and consequent atrophy of muscles and jaws, then degeneration, and ultimately suppression of the teeth entirely. That comparatively little employment of teeth has something to do with their degeneration in civilized nations admits of no doubt; but how many thousand years must it take to make man edentulous when there are so few evidences of a tendency in that direction. The wisdom teeth are said to be disappearing because they are so often ill-developed, and frequently never erupted, and the same remark may sometimes be applied to the upper lateral incisors; but many Egyptian mummies and Etruscan skulls two thousand years ago exhibit the same conditions, yet there is no race of man edentulous. "Are the teeth of the present century worse than those of the last?" is a question by no means easily answered, for we have only general observations, and no statistics to go by. Dental surgery is a modern art, and too much separated from its parents—medicine and surgery—to satisfactorily decide the question. Moreover, dentists only see those people who have defective teeth. Again, much more importance is attached to teeth than in former days, and they consequently receive more attention. It has often been pointed out that the vast improvements in medical and surgical treatment serve to keep alive a number of weaklings who would otherwise have died, and these often have a progeny of similar frailty, whose teeth we may legitimately conclude partake of the general infirmity. On the other hand, dental disease, if early treated, as is now done, may be to a great extent stamped out. Of course, the teeth of civilized nations are worse than those of savages, although those of the latter are by no means free from disease.—*Lancet.*

—The seashore is vexatious to barbers. The moist air makes it difficult for them to keep their razors working "slick as grease." The canvas strap, over which the razor is ordinarily passed as a preliminary, they can not use at all, for it becomes hardened. The strap of Russian leather, which puts on the finishing touches, holds and exudes so much moisture as seriously to interfere with giving a fine edge to the razor. But there is nothing at the seashore to prevent the barber and his victim from swearing.

—If you are nervous or dyspeptic try Carter's Little Nerve Pills. Dyspepsia makes you nervous, and nervousness makes you dyspeptic; either one renders you miserable and these little pills cure both.

## GOOD MEALS.

Go to Mrs. McCabe's restaurant for good meals, 115 Ohio street. s&wf

## Advice to Mothers.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup should always be used for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pains, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle. 7-31cod&wly.

—Palpitation of the heart, nervousness, tremblings, nervous headache, cold hands and feet, pain in the back, and other forms of weakness are relieved by Carter's Iron Pills, made especially for the blood, nerves and complexion.

—McClellan—Pictures.

## AN UPWARD TENBENCY.

The Goat House Loses a Star Boarder by a Slight Rise in Provisions.

One name on the register at the Goat house has been checked off, and the proprietor has a trunkful of "old hoss" for sale.

The departed boarder was from the country, and had struck a job as chambermaid in a horse restaurant.

He had been a boarder at the Goat house since the middle of November, a good boarder, too, always prompt at mealtime, and on familiar terms with the dining-room girl and kitchen mechanic.

But the Goat house register notes his absence, and the female help mourn his untimely going away.

The cause of his sudden departure was this. The proprietor of that hash foundry is a regular and attentive reader of the newspapers. He reads for the good of reading, and stores in his mind the things he has read. As soon as he can borrow the paper from the steps of his next door neighbor's house he sits down and reads it all—head, telegraph, local, editorial, market reports and advertisements.

One day he noticed an item to the effect that sugar had advanced on the New York produce board one-half cent a pound. This item set him to scratching his head and thinking. His thoughts took the form of words, and he said:

"Now, here's a pretty howdy-do! Sugar's advancing in price, and only this morning I noticed that boarder of mine put two spoonfuls in his coffee. I'll speak to him about it."

When the star boarder came in at noon, wiped his feet on the carpet and then threw the straw he had been chewing into the water bucket, the landlord took him over behind the stove and gave him notice that there would be an increase in the board thereafter.

"What's causin' this rise?" asked the guest.

"Why, provisions is gittin' higher an' higher," said the landlord, slipping his glasses to the bald spot on his head.

"Bacon goin' up?"

"No-o, not bacon, but other things."

"Reckon 'tain't flour?"

"Not flour, but jest as necessary."

"Can't be beef, 'cause you don't git any."

"No."

"Then, what is it?"

"Sugar, sir; sugar! Sugar's way up, an' still goin'."

"See here, landlord; no use tryin' to work me on that racket. Don't git nothin' but water for dinner and milk an' water for supper, and the coffee for breakfast is so weak that a spoonful o' sugar will spoil it."

"You'll pay that extra board or you'll git out," said the landlord, backing toward the parlor door.

"Well, I'll git out then," replied the star; "an' I'll pack my trunk this very minute."

"You'll pay what you owe 'fore you take that trunk," ejaculated the landlord, flourishing his walking cane, to the detriment of the looking glass in the corner.

"I'll not pay, an' I'll take my trunk too," said the boarder, as he picked up the fire shovel.

"Help! Murder! Police!" yelled the Goat house man, rushing on to the porch.

By this time the dining-room girl and the cook were gathered about, armed with the implements of war common to their vocations, and implored the boarder to leave at once, before the now thoroughly aroused landlord returned with help and carried him away to join Jack DeLaney on the rock pile.

The hay hustler left, and left his trunk.

As soon as he had gone the landlord peeped from behind the coal shed, sneaked into the house and hurried to examine the contents of the stranger's trunk. He found:

An old pair of overalls,  
A pair of cotton socks,  
A novel, "Green-Eyed Dick; or, The Red-Headed Avenger of the Arkansas Swamps,"

Two pawn tickets,  
A Chinese wash ticket,  
A string of red onions,  
An empty half-pint flask, and  
A Hostetter almanac for 1879.

The proprietor offers these goods, including a raw-hide trunk, covered with brass-headed tacks, for just what they will bring.

## Married by Judge Bailey.

Armstead Jones and Lucy Tribune, a colored couple, appeared before Probate Judge Bailey yesterday morning. They produced the license and Deputy Recorder Baker as a witness, and the judge made them one without a hitch in the proceedings.

—McClellan is leader.

## Probate Court.

J. W. Campbell vs. J. R. Clifton public administrator, estate of John H. Grove, deceased; judgment for plaintiff for \$95.50, interest and costs.

Maggie Hennica, widow of Cassmer Hennica, deceased; comes now the said widow and shows there is no more money or property belonging to said estate than by law is allowed to the widow. It is therefore ordered that no letters issue upon said estate, but that the same be turned over to her without administering upon the same.

John Holtzman, curator of C. A. Holtzman, minors; third annual settlement approved.

D. W. Thompson, administrator of the estate of J. M. Wooldridge, deceased; seventh annual settlement approved.

R. M. Monaghan, administrator of the estate of James Murdagh, deceased; fifth annual settlement approved.

John Bohon, curator of Mary A. Bohon, minor; fourth annual settlement approved.

Elizabeth A. Kimball vs. D. A. Clarke, administrator of the estate of Nancy Randall, deceased; account; cause dismissed at cost of plaintiff.

Louis Deutsch vs. John R. Clifton, public administrator, estate of Michael Brady, deceased; judgment for plaintiff for \$11.50, with interest and costs.

Ed. H. Small, vs. D. T. Chaney, administrator of the estate of C. M. A. Chaney, deceased; judgment for plaintiff for \$50, with interest and costs.

Carrie Vaughan vs. John R. Clifton, public administrator, estate of A. H. Randall, account; cause dismissed for want of prosecution.

Same vs. D. A. Clarke, administrator, c. t. a., estate of Nancy Randall, deceased; account; same entry.

Hall & Beiler vs. Mary Golden, administratrix of the estate of Dennis Golden, deceased; judgment for plaintiffs for \$9.98, with interest and costs.

W. B. Wieman vs. same; judgment for plaintiff for \$9.05, with interest and costs.

J. A. Bowers vs. J. H. Looney, administrator of the estate of L. S. Murray, deceased; judgment for plaintiff for \$73.80, with interest and costs.

E. R. Hunlock vs. John R. Clifton, public administrator, estate of A. C. Scott, deceased; judgment for plaintiff for \$4.

Robert Bonner vs. same; judgment for \$38.50.

N. H. Gentry, administrator of the estate of R. W. Gentry, deceased; order of sale of real estate to pay debts heretofore made in this court is hereby renewed upon the same terms and conditions as contained in the original order of sale, and make report at next term.

W. T. Shivel, administrator of the estate of Otis Kewis, deceased; same order.

D. N. Williams, administrator of the estate of J. D. Crego, deceased; same order.

Anna Ott, guardian and curator of Ott minors; same order.

John C. Pierce vs. John R. Clifton, public administrator, estate of A. C. Scott, deceased; judgment for plaintiff for \$57.50 and interest at 10 per cent.

Zimmerman & Harter vs. John R. Clifton, administrator estate of John H. Grove; judgment for \$28.60.

Sophia J. Carman vs. John R. Clifton, estate of Martha Pulaski, deceased; judgment for \$13.50.

Mary E. Carman vs. same; judgment for \$34.50.

C. G. Taylor vs. John R. Clifton, administrator estate of A. C. Scott, deceased; judgment for \$157.25.

Carl Schilling vs. same; judgment for \$2.

John R. Clifton, public administrator, estate of Wm. E. Travis, deceased; there appearing to be more money in the hands of the administrator than will be necessary for the payment of debts, he is ordered to pay the sum of \$145 for the purpose of erecting a tombstone at the grave of deceased.

Margaret Murphy vs. John R. Clifton, estate of John H. Grove, deceased; plaintiff files bond and affidavit for appeal. Bond approved and appeal granted.

J. H. Delaney vs. same; judgment

George E. Hollenbeck, guardian and curator of Scott Archer, minor, files inventory of estate; approved.

Same, curator for Birdie Archer, same entry.

Same, administrator of the estate of Sophia Archer, deceased; same entry.

Same, estate of Nellie Archer, same entry.

Court adjourned until Saturday, December 10th.

—All cases of weak or lame back, backache, rheumatism, &c., will find relief by wearing one of Carter's Smart Weed and Belladonna Backache Plasters. Price 25 cents.

## SECRET SOCIETIES.

## Officers Elected.

At the annual meeting of Sedalia lodge No. 236, A. F. and A. M., Friday evening, the following officers were elected:

B. H. Ingram, W. M.  
W. W. Herold, S. W.  
E. W. Lamy, J. W.  
W. E. Bard, treasurer.  
F. W. Henry, secretary.

The installation will be held on the night of St. John's Day, December 27th, at the hall of the lodge, in the First National bank building.

## ANTE-ROOM GOSSIP.

—The Catholic Knights of America will elect officers on the 21st.

—Sedalia Royal Arch chapter No. 18 held a special meeting last evening.

—The Catholic Benevolent society will hold a business meeting to-day, at their hall over Cassidy's on Main street.

—Amity lodge No. 69, A. O. U. W., held a very interesting meeting Friday night. The bills created by the Thanksgiving supper at the park hotel were audited and allowed.

## A Pair of Mittens.

A good story is told on a dry goods clerk at one of the largest stores in the city. A young lady went into the store recently and left by accident a pair of handsome mittens. The clerk put them away, not knowing whose they were. Yesterday another lady went into the store to buy a pair of mittens, and not finding any to suit her, the clerk bethought himself of the ones he had found and laid away. The gloves were well made and nearly new, and he made the lady a present of them. She took them and departed.

She had been gone from the store hardly an hour when the owner of the gloves came in, told one of the boys she had left a pair of mittens, and asked him if he had seen anything of them. He was a truthful young man, and having seen his fellow clerk put the gloves away, called him and asked him, in the presence of the lady, where he had put them. The dapper young clerk, who will be known in this o'er-true tale as Charley, for short, turned all sorts of colors, and begged a few moments' time to think. Out on the street was the best place to think, and out he rushed, bent on finding the lady to whom he had given the gloves, and, if possible, reclaim them. With many blushes and much laughter he told his story, secured the gloves and rushed back to the store, telling the owner he had placed the gloves in his overcoat pocket, and had that morning left his overcoat at home.

Of course he thinks the affair is a profound secret, and will tear his hair when he sees this item.

## DRAMATIC.

—Thomas W. Keen will be at the Olympic theatre St. Louis, this week.

—Emma Abbott and company were in Kansas City all of last week.

—Mme. Emma Nevada has had her engagement renewed at the San Carlos Theatre, Lisbon. It has proved brilliantly successful.

—Maggie Mitchell was born in 1832, but is as youthful as a girl of sweet sixteen. She delighted large audiences all the week in St. Louis last week.

—Miss Nellie Wetherell, at one time one of the most pleasing actresses of the Union Square Theatre New York during the period when the company which Mr. A. M. Palmer had gathered together was making the fame which time has rather heightened than diminished, is now confined to her room at her home in New York City, unable to rise from her bed owing to an injury to one of her feet.

—Stage kisses have been more talked about than for some time since Mrs. Langtry said her leading juvenile had been paying osculatory attention to her slippers. Theater goers were more or less grieved that Mrs. Potter boycotted the kiss entirely in her dramatic lovemaking. It is a new departure, except that Mary Anderson of all the beautiful stars has never been suspected of indulging in the genuine article, or, indeed, anything so nearly approaching it as to look like a contact of lips. A lady who knew and entertained Miss Anderson here says the tall Kentuckian used always, before saluting her hostess, to say: "Would you be willing I should kiss you?"

## FIRE DEPARTMENT NOTES.

—No alarms lately, and the boys employ their time training their horses.

—Hoseman Ben Yost, of Hose company No. 2, has resigned, and G. W. Bartlett elected in his stead.

—The rains have come in time to avert a threatened water famine. During the low stage of the water Chief Willis drilled his men in the use of the engine as a special precaution.